

DRAFT

**Fauquier County Board of Supervisors
Public Safety Committee
Meeting of March 23, 2005**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Public Safety Committee Chairman Chester Stribling called the meeting to order at 5:08 pm.

2. Introduction of Participants

Present were:

- Mr. Chester Stribling, Fauquier County Board of Supervisors
- Mr. Raymond, Graham, Fauquier County Board of Supervisors
- Mr. Charlie Ray Fox, Jr., Sheriff
- Ms. Catherine Heritage, Assistant County Administrator
- Mr. Tim McMenamin, Director, WFJCC
- Lt. Colonel Dave Flohr, Fauquier County Sheriff's Office
- Mr. Tom Marable, President, Fauquier Fire and Rescue Association
- Chief Philip Myer, Dept. of Fire and Emergency Services
- Mr. Allen Cubbage, Warrenton Police Department
- Mr. Bill Dugan, WFJCC
- Mr. Tom Pavelko, Staff to the Public Safety Committee

*Alexandra Bogedahovic of the Fauquier Times
Democrat joined the Public Safety Committee as an observer.

3. Approval of the Minutes and Agenda

Mr. Stribling called for approval of the current agenda and the minutes of the January 19, 2005 meeting. Seconded: Mr. Graham. Adopted.

4. Request for B.O.S. Resolution to declare a Public Safety Telecom Week

Tim McMenamin of the Warrenton/Fauquier Joint Communications Center, requested approval from the committee to put forth a Board of Supervisors resolution declaring April 10-April 17, as Public Safety Telecommunications Week in Fauquier County. All members were in agreement, however, Mr. Graham suggested this request be a proclamation instead of a resolution. Mr. Graham will sign and sponsor the proclamation and recognize it at the next Board of Supervisor's meeting. Katie Heritage was tasked with preparing the proclamation and placing in on the next B.O.S meeting. agenda.

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5. Status of new DFES Employees

Philip Myer informed the committee that all new DFES positions have been filled. Although two employees have already resigned, recruitment is ongoing. Paramedic school for new recruits begins in April. Mr. Stribling asked Chief Myer to investigate policy in regards to terminating employment early after training obligations have been paid for by the county. In response to the growing trend of new recruits leaving for higher salaries after training is completed, Sheriff Fox advised that he is considering such a policy that would require new hires to fulfill certain contractual obligations before resigning.

6. Fire and Rescue Services Survey Results

Committee members reviewed the results of the Fire and Rescue Services Survey. The survey provided valuable information with regards to fee recovery across the state. However, some additional information was requested. Judy Risdon was tasked with obtaining additional information regarding the number of shared facilities in each jurisdiction surveyed. As well as the ratio of paid vs. volunteer stations. It was agreed this issue would be discussed at the next meeting.

7. Status of Ambulance Revenue Recovery

Philip Myer has visited almost all Fire and Rescue Companies in an effort to gain support for his proposed fee for service plan. He provided all companies with surveys to be filled out to gauge interest in the plan. 11 of 13 companies have responded with mixed opinions. Tom Marable reminded everyone that this is not necessarily the opinion of the entire company, but the opinion of the fire chief who filled out the survey. Chief Myer plans to follow up with the Fire and Rescue Companies again in April.

8. VFRA FY06 Budget

Tom Marable requested Public Safety Committee approval of some small changes to the FRA FY06 Budget Request. Mr. Graham approved of the request, contingent upon verification of the monetary amounts by the Budget Office. This item will be placed on the next Finance Committee Agenda for final approval.

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9. Roundtable

Tim McMenamin advised the WFJCC is recruiting for a vacant position. A change in advertising methods resulted in a better applicant pool for this vacancy. He also advised, the Reverse 911 Program should be functional in the next few weeks. Sheriff Fox advised that staff turnover is becoming a real problem and that five veteran employees are in the process of leaving the Sheriff's Office. Dave Flohr indicated that the jail construction is running ahead of schedule and the estimated completion date is set for July 21, 2005. Bill Dugan reported that the Fauquier Airport, the Zoning Department and Operations have all been equipped with the new 800 MHz radios. Mr. Graham recommended meeting with members of the press to inform them of the completion of the radio project.

Philip Myer noted that he is exploring the possibility of a regional training facility for Fire and Rescue personnel. The overcrowding problem in the schools has cut into the existing space available for Fire and Rescue trainings. Katie Heritage advised that the Regional Jail Board may become a Regional Jail authority in the near future. She also announced that the entire second floor staff of the Warren Green building has been trained on the use of the heart defibrillator.

11. Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Mr. Stribling adjourned the meeting at 6:14 pm.

Given under my hand this 14th day of April 2005

Thomas S. Pavelko, Lead Staff
Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee